Remarks

Claims 108-127 are pending, and claims 108-127 stand rejected. Claims 108 and 118 are amended in this Response. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 108-127.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 108-127 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of U.S. Patent number 5,483,589 (Ishida) and U.S. Patent number 5,917,897 (Johnson). The Applicants submit that claims 108-127 are novel and non-obvious in view of Ishida, Johnson, and any combination thereof based on the following remarks.

Claim 108 describes "a call processing control system coupled to the signaling processors and configured to receive call processing data and update the call processing tables in the signaling processors based on the call processing data to remotely control call processing." The Examiner states that Ishida does not teach updating call processing tables. The Applicants agree. The Examiner suggests that Johnson teaches updating call processing tables as described in claim 108. The Applicants disagree.

Johnson recites using bid information to choose some selected routes in a network.

Johnson recites a Moderator that receives bids from Carriers on particular routes, and provides a list of costs per route for each Carrier. The Moderator then transfers the list to Subscribers. The Subscribers may adjust routing tables in a switch based on the information in the list to get "least cost routing". However, Johnson does not teach adjusting routing tables in multiple signaling processors in a network as described in claim 108 to remotely control call processing. The Moderator merely provides information to the Subscribers and does not update a routing table to remotely control call processing.

Based on the above remarks, the Applicants submit that claim 108 is novel and non-obvious in view of Ishida, Johnson, and any combination therewith. Claim 118 is novel and non-obvious for similar reasons. The dependent claims are novel and non-obvious as being dependent on one of claims 108 or 118. There may be additional reasons in support of patentability, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of brevity.

Conclusion

Because Ishida, Johnson, and the combination thereof do not teach that which is claimed in independent claims 108 and 118, the Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 108-127. Any fees in addition to those submitted may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-27-04

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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